Response to final Office Action of May 6, 2011

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 2611 Atty Docket 348162-982790

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A method of arranging image data representing a motion picture sequence within a memory sub-system in an image data processing system, the method comprising using dedicated hardware and/or a processor a decoder to dynamically select the arrangement of image data for successive pictures of said sequence in said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:
variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,
picture type, and
image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates for a cache memory in the memory sub-system, processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

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encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and

advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained

in a data file;

wherein measured characteristics of the image data at one part of the sequence are

used to predict characteristics of a subsequent portion of the sequence, and the

memory arrangement is controlled according to measured characteristics of recently

processed portions of the sequence.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said memory sub-

system includes an image data storage memory constructed from paged memory.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said memory sub-

system includes a processor cache memory in addition to a main image data storage

memory.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of

selecting the arrangement of image data in storage memory comprises selecting

between a linear format, whereby image data is stored in the memory sub-system on a

line-by-line basis, and at least one kind of tiled format, whereby two-dimensional groups

of pixels are grouped in the memory sub-system.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the memory sub-

system includes cache memory, said tiled format is defined such that data for one tile

corresponds to a whole number of cache blocks.

6. (Canceled)

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7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method looks

ahead in the motion picture sequence so as to measure said characteristics of the

image data for a given portion of the sequence and selects the memory arrangement

prior to processing that portion.

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8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the method further

comprises ing averaging over a period of time the measurement of image data

characteristics.

10. (**Previously Presented**) A method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the variability

of motion vectors is measured separately between vertical and horizontal planes, each

having a different effect in the selection of the storage arrangement.

11. - 12. (Canceled)

13. (**Previously Presented**) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method

includes the system performance measurement, and wherein the system performance

is measured on a test basis using a sample of data, prior to processing the data.

14. (**Previously Presented**) A method as claimed claim 1, wherein the method

includes the system performance measurement, and wherein the system performance

measured while processing a first part of the sequence is used in selecting the

arrangement of memory for a subsequent part of the sequence.

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15. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method

comprises using knowledge of subsequent processing steps to influence the selection

of the arrangement of data in the memory sub-system.

16. (**Original**) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection of memory

arrangement is implemented at least partly by changing parameters used by memory-

accessing program code.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection of

memory arrangement is implemented at least partly based upon a selection of different

versions of code to be executed.

18. (**Previously Presented**) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the memory

sub-system includes processor cache memory in addition to main image data storage

memory, and wherein the selecting is performed using cache-handling functions.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a block

allocation function, whereby a new cache-block is allocated and overwritten without pre-

loading the new cache-block from the main memory, is used selectively according to

said measured characteristics.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein, in addition, cache pre-

fetching is activated selectively in accordance with the measured characteristics.

21. - 22. (Canceled)

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23. (**Currently Amended**) A system as claimed in claim <del>22</del> <u>25</u>, wherein the memory sub-system includes an image data storage memory constructed from paged memory.

- 24. (**Currently Amended**) A system as claimed in claim 23 34, wherein said memory sub-system includes a processor cache memory in addition to an image data storage memory.
- 25. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of: variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

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wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data

includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and

advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained

in a data file;

wherein the decoder means for selecting the arrangement of image data in said

memory-sub-system is arranged for selecting between a linear format, whereby image

data is stored in the memory sub-system on a line-by-line basis, and at least one kind of

tiled format, whereby two-dimensional groups of pixels are grouped in the memory sub-

system.

26. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 25, wherein where the

memory sub-system includes cache memory, said tiled format is defined such that data

for one tile corresponds to a whole number of cache blocks.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim-22,

the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically

selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture

sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured

characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image

data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:

variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

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## image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and
advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained
in a data file;

wherein the <u>decoder</u> means for dynamically selecting is arranged to look ahead in the motion picture sequence so as to measure said characteristics of the image data for a given portion of the sequence and select the memory arrangement prior to processing that portion.

29. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:

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variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

<u>quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to</u> an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and
advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained
in a data file;

wherein the <u>decoder</u> means for dynamically selecting is arranged such that measured characteristics of the image data at one part of the sequence are used effectively to predict characteristics of a subsequent portion of the sequence, and the memory arrangement controlled according to measured characteristics of recently processed portions of the sequence.

30. (**Currently Amended**) A system as claimed in claim 22 34, wherein the measuring means component includes means for averaging averages measured image data characteristics over period of time.

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31. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, wherein the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:

variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

<u>quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to</u> an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and
advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained
in a data file;

the processing system further including:

<u>a</u> measuring <u>means is component</u> arranged to measure variability of motion vectors, <u>wherein</u> the measuring <u>means component</u> is arranged to <u>do so measure</u>

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separately between vertical and horizontal planes, each having a different effect in the selection of the storage arrangement.

32. - 33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, wherein the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of: variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and

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advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained in a data file;

the processing system further including:

a measuring component that means for measures ing system performance is arranged to do so at least partly on a test basis using a sample of data, prior to processing the data.

35. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of: variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

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wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and
advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained
in a data file;

wherein the <u>decoder</u> selecting means and <u>a measuring component that</u> means for measur<u>es</u> ing system performance are arranged such that system performance measured while processing a first part of the sequence is used to influence the arrangement of the memory sub-system for a subsequent part of the sequence.

36. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 22, the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:

variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

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bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing

system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data

includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and

advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained

in a data file;

wherein the decoder selecting means uses knowledge of a set of subsequent

processing steps to influence the selection of the arrangement of data in the memory

sub-system.

37. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 22 34, wherein the selecting

means decoder comprises dedicated hardware and/or a processor.

38. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 22 28, wherein the selecting

means decoder is implemented at least partly by means for changing parameters used

in accessing said memory sub-system.

39. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 22 29, wherein the selecting

means decoder comprises dedicated hardware or a processor.

40. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 22 34, wherein the memory

sub-system includes a processor cache memory in addition to main image data storage

memory, and wherein the selecting is performed using cache-handling functions.

41. (Currently Amended) An image data processing system, as claimed in claim 40,

the processing system including a memory sub-system and a decoder that dynamically

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selects the arrangement of image data for successive frames of a motion picture sequence within said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of: variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed, and

bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and

advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained in a data file;

wherein the memory sub-system includes a processor cache memory in addition to main image data storage memory, and wherein the selecting is performed using cache-handling functions;

wherein the system is arranged such that a block allocation function, whereby a new cache-block is allocated and overwritten without pre-loading the new cache-block from the main memory, is selectively used according to said measured characteristics.

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42. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 40 41, wherein the system is

arranged such that cache pre-fetching is activated selectively in accordance with the

measured characteristics.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable instruction medium

with instructions for causing a data processing system to implement a method of

arranging image data representing a motion picture sequence within a memory sub-

system in an image data processing system, the method comprising:

dynamically selecting the arrangement of image data for successive pictures of

said sequence in said memory sub-system according to at least one of: measured

characteristics of said image data, measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system, and known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image

data within said image processing system;

wherein the measured characteristics of said image data includes at least one of:

variability of motion vectors encoded within received data,

picture type, and

image resolution;

wherein the measured characteristics of the performance of said processing

system includes at least one of:

data cache stall rates for a cache memory in the memory sub-system,

processor utilization,

quality of service or other qualitative measurements that are perceptible to

an end user of content being processed, and

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bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system;

wherein the known characteristics of subsequent processing of said image data includes at least one of:

encoded data size per picture of the sequence, and advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained in a data file;

wherein measured characteristics of the image data at one part of the sequence are used to predict characteristics of a subsequent portion of the sequence, and the memory arrangement is controlled according to measured characteristics of recently processed portions of the sequence.

- 45. (**Currently Amended**) The method system of claim 22 25, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the variability of motion vectors encoded within received data.
- 46. (**Currently Amended**) The method system of claim 22 26, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the picture type.
- 47. (**Currently Amended**) The method system of claim 22 28, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the image resolution.
- 48. (**Currently Amended**) The method system of claim 22 29, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

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processing system comprise the data cache stall rates for a cache memory in the

memory sub-system.

49. (Currently Amended) The method system of claim 22 31, wherein the dynamic

selection is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the processor utilization.

50. (Currently Amended) The method system of claim 22 31, wherein the dynamic

selection is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the quality of service or other qualitative measurements

that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed.

51. (Currently Amended) The method system of claim 22 35, wherein the dynamic

selection is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said

image processing system.

52. (Currently Amended) The method system of claim 22 41, wherein the dynamic

selection is performed according to known characteristics comprise the encoded data

size per picture of the sequence.

53. (Currently Amended) The method system of claim 22 41, wherein the dynamic

selection is performed according to known characteristics comprise the advance

information relating to the content of the image stream contained in a data file.

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54. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the

variability of motion vectors encoded within received data.

55. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the

picture type.

56. (**Currently Amended**) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of said image data comprise the

image resolution.

57. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the data cache stall rates for a cache memory in the

memory sub-system.

58. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the processor utilization.

59. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection

is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said

processing system comprise the quality of service or other qualitative measurements

that are perceptible to an end user of content being processed.

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60. (**Currently Amended**) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the <del>dynamic selection</del> is performed according to measured characteristics of the performance of said processing system comprise the bandwidth of a link feeding data into or out of said image processing system.

- 61. (**Currently Amended**) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to known characteristics comprise the encoded data size per picture of the sequence.
- 62. (**Currently Amended**) The system of claim 22 34, wherein the dynamic selection is performed according to known characteristics comprise the advance information relating to the content of the image stream contained in a data file.